CLAIMS
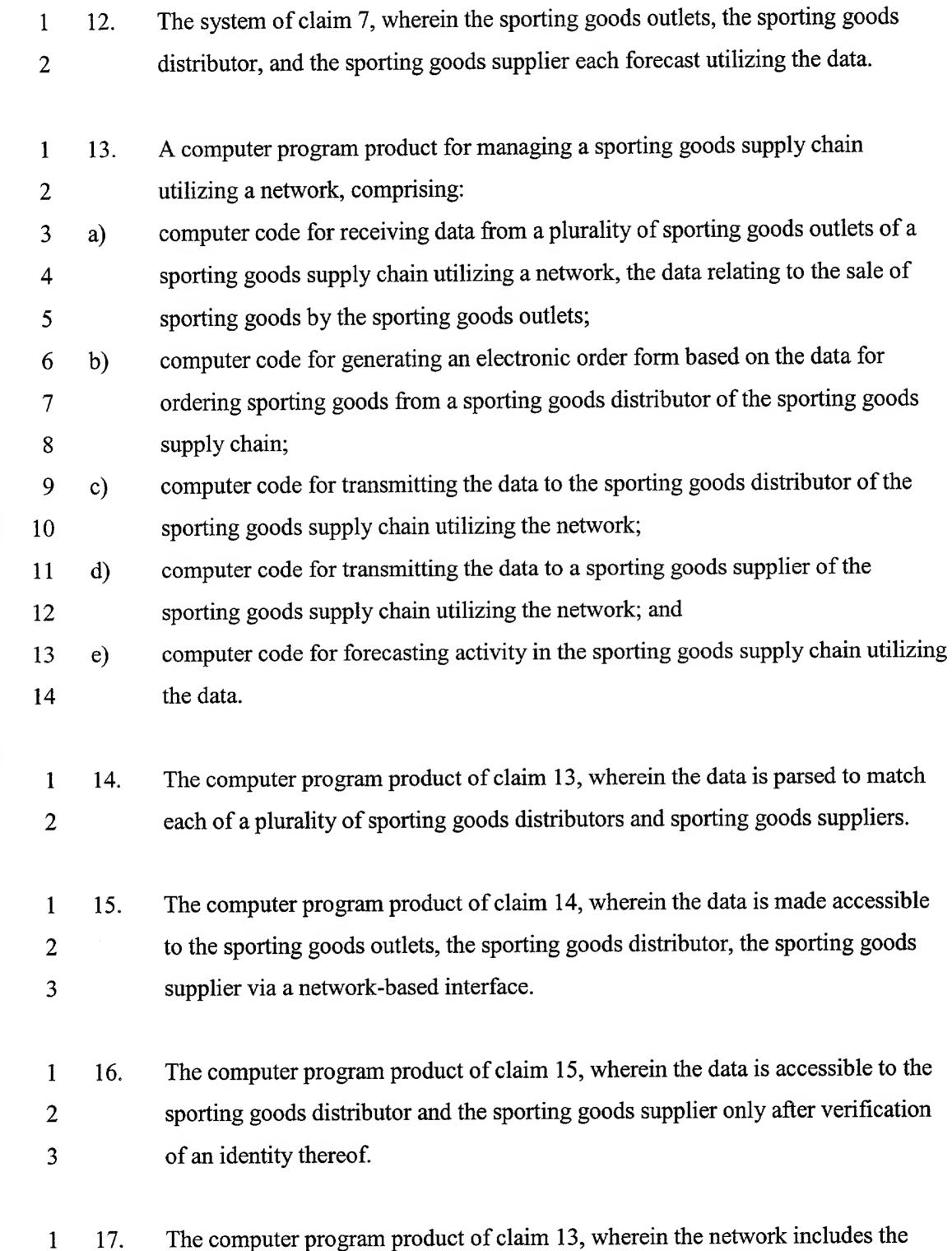
What is claimed is:

1.   A method for managing a sporting goods supply chain utilizing a network, comprising:

    a)   receiving data from a plurality of sporting goods outlets of a sporting goods supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of sporting goods by the sporting goods outlets;

    b)   generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering sporting goods from a sporting goods distributor of the sporting goods supply chain;

    c)   transmitting the data to the sporting goods distributor of the sporting goods supply chain utilizing the network;

    d)   transmitting the data to a sporting goods supplier of the sporting goods supply chain utilizing the network; and

    e)   forecasting activity in the sporting goods supply chain utilizing the data.

2.   The method of claim 1, wherein the data is parsed to match each of a plurality of sporting goods distributors and sporting goods suppliers.

3.   The method of claim 2, wherein the data is made accessible to the sporting goods outlets, the sporting goods distributor, the sporting goods supplier via a network-based interface.

4.   The method of claim 3, wherein the data is accessible to the sporting goods distributor and the sporting goods supplier only after verification of an identity thereof.

5.   The method of claim 1, wherein the network includes the Internet.

1   6.   The method of claim 1, wherein the sporting goods outlets, the sporting goods

2   distributor, and the sporting goods supplier each forecast utilizing the data.

1   7.   A system for managing a sporting goods supply chain utilizing a network,

2   comprising:

3   a)   logic for receiving data from a plurality of sporting goods outlets of a sporting

4   goods supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of sporting

5   goods by the sporting goods outlets;

6   b)   logic for generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering

7   sporting goods from a sporting goods distributor of the sporting goods supply

8   chain;

9   c)   logic for transmitting the data to the sporting goods distributor of the sporting

10   goods supply chain utilizing the network;

11 d)   logic for transmitting the data to a sporting goods supplier of the sporting goods

12   supply chain utilizing the network; and

13 e)   logic for forecasting activity in the sporting goods supply chain utilizing the data.

1   8.   The system of claim 7, wherein the data is parsed to match each of a plurality of

2   sporting goods distributors and sporting goods suppliers.

1   9.   The system of claim 8, wherein the data is made accessible to the sporting goods

2   outlets, the sporting goods distributor, the sporting goods supplier via a network-

3   based interface.

1   10. The system of claim 9, wherein the data is accessible to the sporting goods

2   distributor and the sporting goods supplier only after verification of an identity

3   thereof.

1   11. The system of claim 7, wherein the network includes the Internet.

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1 12.   The system of claim 7, wherein the sporting goods outlets, the sporting goods

2   distributor, and the sporting goods supplier each forecast utilizing the data.

1 13.   A computer program product for managing a sporting goods supply chain

2   utilizing a network, comprising:

3 a)   computer code for receiving data from a plurality of sporting goods outlets of a

4   sporting goods supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of

5   sporting goods by the sporting goods outlets;

6 b)   computer code for generating an electronic order form based on the data for

7   ordering sporting goods from a sporting goods distributor of the sporting goods

8   supply chain;

9 c)   computer code for transmitting the data to the sporting goods distributor of the

10   sporting goods supply chain utilizing the network;

11 d)   computer code for transmitting the data to a sporting goods supplier of the

12   sporting goods supply chain utilizing the network; and

13 e)   computer code for forecasting activity in the sporting goods supply chain utilizing

14   the data.

1 14.   The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the data is parsed to match

2   each of a plurality of sporting goods distributors and sporting goods suppliers.

1 15.   The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the data is made accessible

2   to the sporting goods outlets, the sporting goods distributor, the sporting goods

3   supplier via a network-based interface.

1 16.   The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the data is accessible to the

2   sporting goods distributor and the sporting goods supplier only after verification

3   of an identity thereof.

1 17.   The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the network includes the

2   Internet.

1   18.   The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the sporting goods outlets,

2   the sporting goods distributor, and the sporting goods supplier each forecast

3   utilizing the data.